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Letter dated 19 May 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Croatia wishes to become a member of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Since its accession to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol thereto, Croatia has been actively involved in the process of setting up a legislative framework and developing international partnerships in the field of protection and promotion of the rights of refugees.

Over the past two decades, the Republic of Croatia has gained an abundance of experience in the field of managing refugees and displaced persons, and has invested significant resources, both financial and material, in refugee return and local integration. Croatia has closely cooperated with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in this process. Furthermore, at the national level, Croatia is continuing to implement extensive measures towards achieving durable solutions.

Croatia believes that joining the Executive Committee will provide it with a great opportunity to actively contribute its abundant experience to the outstanding work of the Committee in alleviating the suffering of refugees, and to benefit from its deliberations and best practices.

In light of the above, the Government of Croatia hopes that the Economic and Social Council will give favourable consideration to this request and that it will recommend to the General Assembly that it increase the membership of the Executive Committee by one.

(*Signed*) Ranko **Vilović**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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